

HCRIS PRODUCTION NOTES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2001 THROUGH CURRENT SKILLED NURSING
FACILITY (SNF)
COST REPORT DATASET

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1. OVERVIEW:

CMS stores the HCRIS cost report files in a relational database.

The foremost characteristic of this database is the fact that data elements will be distributed in flat files aligned with the database table in which they reside in our database.

You will be able to access this limited set of HCRIS Cost Report data that is submitted to HCRIS by a Fiscal Intermediary on behalf of a provider. The major benefit for all users is the ability to use Relational Database Technology to quickly exclude certain fields of data or perform cross-sectional analysis.

The following website contains the Provider Reimbursement Manuals (PRM) and electronic cost reporting specifications for provider cost reports:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Manuals/PBM/itemdetail.asp?filterType=none&filterByDID=0&sortByDID=1&sortOrder=ascending&itemID=CMS021935>

2. INTRODUCTION:

The CMS Form 2540-96 SNF Cost Report database contains cost reports with fiscal years ending on or after September 30, 1996 (with the data contained in this limited dataset for FY2001 through Current). The data files contain the highest level of Medicare cost report status. If HCRIS has both an as submitted report and a final settled report for a SNF for a particular year, the data files will only contain the final settled report. If HCRIS has an as submitted, final settled, and reopened report for a SNF for a particular year, the data files will contain the reopened cost report. It is possible for 1 SNF Provider to submit 2 or more cost reports for a given year for the same cost report status. This may happen if a Provider changes its FY, or if there is a CHOW (Change of Ownership) during the year. We have also found cost reports that were sent in error with an incorrect FYB or FYE. For the most part, HCRIS tries to eliminate these incorrect submissions by contacting the FI and deleting a cost report that the FI identifies as incorrect.

If you have any questions about this product, please contact the HCRIS staff via e-mail at HCRIS@cms.hhs.gov, and use the letters "SNF" in the subject line.

3. NOTES:

The data included with this release includes limited years from FY2001 of SNF cost reports received by HCRIS through date in filename. If you are querying data for a specific year, you will need to set up query parameters to include only the years that you want to analyze. For example, if you want data for fiscal year 2002, you need to create a condition for the fiscal year begin date to be between 10/1/01 through 9/30/02.

The data in the SNF database includes cost reports for free-standing SNF's. Hospital-based SNF's are included in the Hospital database (2552-96).

To use the SNF cost report database, you first need to determine the data that you are interested in by reviewing the cost report forms and the data specifications. You will need to know the Worksheet ID, line, and column from the cost report form. For example, if you wanted to extract the data for "Skilled Nursing Facility-Number of Beds", you will need to determine where this information is collected in the report and use these elements as parameters to pull the data from the SNF_RPT_NMRC table. The number of beds is collected on Worksheet S-3, Part I, Line 1, Column 1 so you would create the following condition:

```
Worksheet Code ='S300001' *  
Line Number ='00100'  
Column Number ='0100'
```

*Note: Use Table 2 of HCRIS specs to determine worksheet codes.

Many lines on the worksheet forms can be subscripted. For example, the worksheet form may show line 6, but it is possible that data relating to that line could be reported on lines 00600 thru 00699. Keep that in mind when extracting data for a particular line.

It is important to read the cost center coding rules from Table 4 of the HCRIS specifications to understand the connection between worksheet line numbers and cost center codes. The table explains what cost center codes to use for each line on the worksheets that collect data for cost centers. When collecting data from any cost center code, remember to enter a range of cost center codes. For example, the cost center for Housekeeping includes lines from 00700 through 00799.

4. FILES AND CONTENTS:

2540-96_Forms.zip - File containing the forms that comprise the SNF system in Microsoft Excel format. (The cells that are extracted for HCRIS contain an "X")

2540-96_Specifications.zip - File containing the specifications for all worksheets that comprise the HCRIS SNF system in Microsoft Excel.

DESC.txt - Brief description of this data release.

README.TXT - This readme file.

SNF_COUNTS_xx_xx_xx_FY20xx-to-current.xls - File containing the counts of SNF cost

reports per year in Microsoft Excel format.

SNF_Data_Dictionary.xls - A dictionary describing the fields included in the database.

SNF_DM.pdf - Adobe PDF version of the Relational Data Model for SNF HCRIS

SNF_RPT_FY20xx-to-current.zip - Compressed Winzip file containing 1 text file with the raw data to be loaded into the SNF_RPT table. The file contains data elements that are separated by commas.

SNF_RPT_ALPHNMRC_FY20xx-to-current.zip - Compressed Winzip file containing 1 text file with the raw data to be loaded into the SNF_RPT_ALPHNMRC table. The file contains data elements that are separated by commas.

SNF_RPT_NMRC_FY20xx-to-current.zip - Compressed Winzip file containing 1 text file with the raw data to be loaded into the SNF_RPT_NMRC table. The file contains data elements that are separated by commas.

SNF_TABLES.sql - ANSI SQL Program (non-Database specific) Containing the DDL scripts to create the 3 tables that comprise the HCRIS SNF Database.

5. SET UP GUIDANCE:

It is important to note that the data files you will be provided are not restricted for use in one given database platform or even a database management system for that matter. You will likely be able to use your existing tools or utilities to access the data, given the ability of those tools to handle files up to the size of the largest datafile and files containing data arranged in CSV or Comma Separated value format.

Please be certain to examine the individual datafile and corresponding database table structure carefully or else you may not achieve valid results or even be able to access the data. If you choose to use a relational or desktop database management system, please be mindful of the sizes of the various datafiles.

6. DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services shall retain no responsibility for the data recipients inability to load, examine, or otherwise use the published data for the HCRIS system.

The information in these files is subject to change, and should be reviewed for each release.

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